and Education and met officials in the Ministries of External Affairs and Science and Technology. On behalf of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia the delegation conveyed its desire to re-establish contacts in permitted areas following the partial relaxation of UN sanctions. Since October 1994, the UN has relaxed sanctions in the areas of education; culture; sports and international flights vis-a-vis the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. The bilateral discussions were in these context. It was made clear to them that any action in this regard would continue to be strictly in conformity with the UN sanctions, to which India is a party.

(g) and (h) While the visit was in connection with the multilateral Conference, the bilateral exchanges provided an opportunity for better understanding of the situation in the former Yugoslavia and for a review of bilateral issues as permitted under the UN sanctions.

Anti-India propaganda by Hurriyat Representatives

425. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report published in the 'Sunday Observer' dated 1st January, 1995 under the heading "Hurriyat participation at OIC meeting irks the Indian Diplomatic Missions";

(b) if so, what are the facts in this regard;

(c) what are the details of anti-India tirade of Hurriyat representatives at OIC meet in Casablanka and in other countries visited by them which have come to Government's notice and to what extent these anti Indian activities have damaged th Indian interests and Government's stand on Kashmir issue;

(d) what are the names of the Hurriyat representatives and also the names of the Pakistani diplomats, leaders and other persons to whom they met during their visit and what are the details of their discussions with them; and how much funds they have collected from abroad;

(e) on what considerations Hurriyat representatives were permitted to attend the OIC meet; and

(f) what is Government's reaction to their anti-Indian activities abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (*SHRI R. L. BHATIA*): (a) Government have seen the media report.

(b) to (f) The All Party Hurriyat Conference leaders, Mirwaiz Umar Farooq and Maulana Abbas Ansari, had travelled out of the country in their individual capacities during the months from December 1994 to February 1995. These two individuals visited Morocco reportedly at the invitation of the OIC. They subsequently travelled to Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and UK.

While in Morocco, they, inter-alia, met the Prime Minister of Pakistan, the Chairman of the Pakistan Parliamentary Committee on Kashmir, Pakistan Foreign Minister and Pakistan Foreign Secretary; the so-called Prime Minister and President of Pakistan Occupied Kashmir, apart from representatives of various Pakistani-sponsored Kashmiri organisations.

Government have reports to the effect that they have expressed views, during their visit, on Jammu and Kashmir which have no relation to the ground reality, and that they have even raised some funds.

Government would take all steps necessary to fight militancy in Jammu

and Kashmir, to counter anti-India propaganda, and would remain vigiliant on the support, financial or material, extended from Pakistan or from any other outside quarters in sustenance of activities directed against the unity and integrity of the country. Government constantly endeavour to project to the international community the situation in Jammu and Kashmir in its true perspective.

Indian offer of bilateral talks with Pakistan

426. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have given any offer for fresh bilateral talks with Pakistan in recent days;

(b) whether Government propose to reopen its mission office in Karachi;

(c) whether Government have inclined to discuss two Non-papers sent by Pakistan; if so, what reply Government have given to Pakistan;

(d) whether Pakistan has any condition for talks with India; and

(e) what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Government have repeatedly conveyed to Pakistan in the recent period our readiness to hold unconditional bilateral talks, to address outstanding issues.

(b) Government regret the unilateral decision of Pakistan asking for the closure of the Consulate General of India at Karachi. Government hope that Government of Pakistan will review its decision.

(c) to (e) Pakistan has raised at various times certain conditions and preconditions pertaining to the ground situation in J&K and the two non-papers handed over in January 1994 for the holding or talks with India. Setting of conditions and preconditions for such talks does not, in our view, constitute a positive approach.

Opening of Indian and Pakistani consulates

427. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have expressed willingness to resume bilateral discussion with Pakistan on the issues of Indian mission in Karachi and Pakistani Consulate in Bombay;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Pakistan Government on such move;

(c) whether the Pakistan Government have put conditions to discuss the issues; and

(d) if so, the details thereof; and the reaction of Government on this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) Government have urged Pakistan to reconsider the unilateral closure of its Consulate in Bombay and its decision to close down the Indian Consulate General in Karachi. However, Pakistan has not yet responded favourably.

(c) and (d) Pakistan's unilateral decisions in this regard are based on misconceptions and propagandistic considerations. Government regret that the Pakistani decisions could adversely affect people-to-people contact between the two countries.